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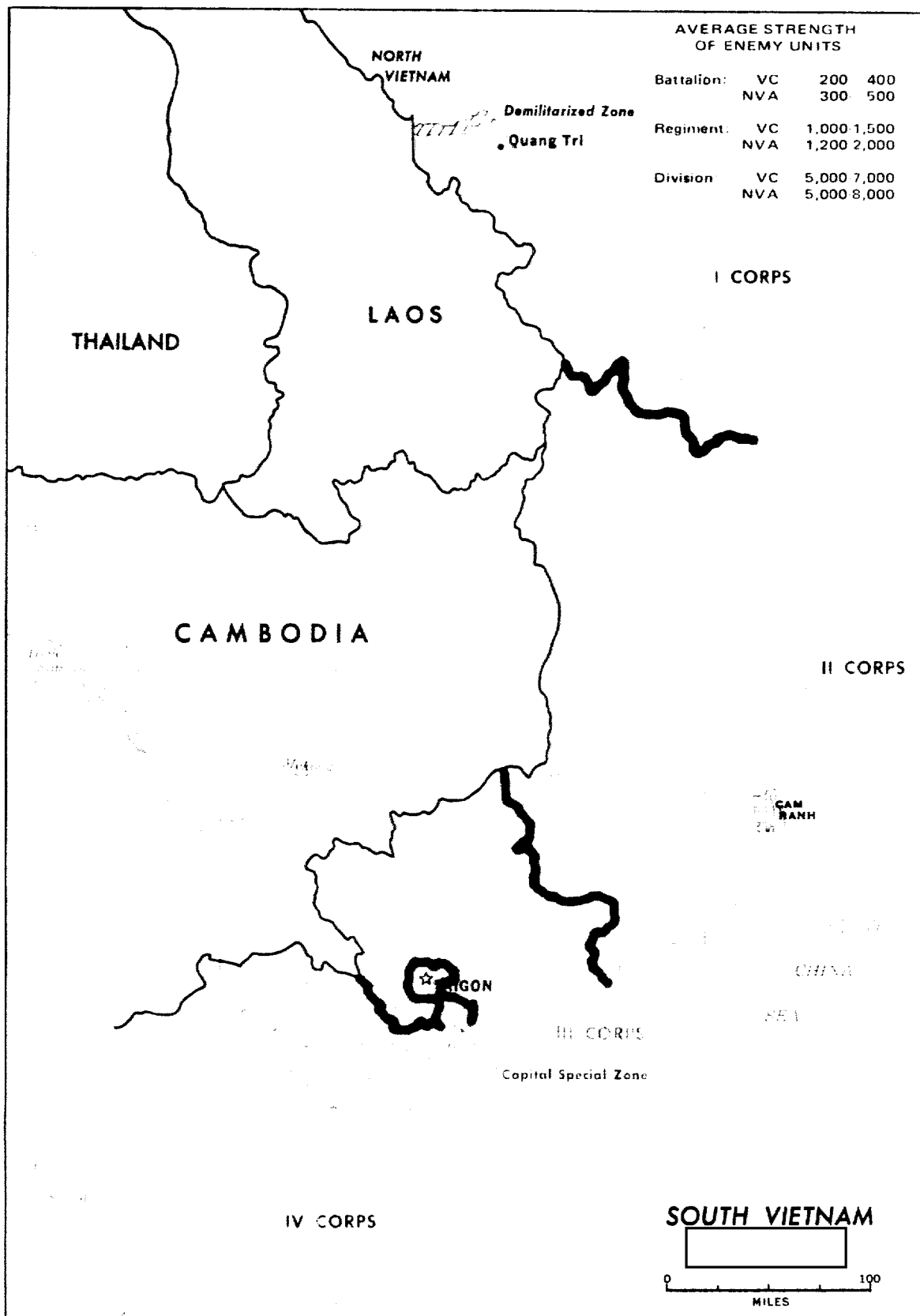
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[South Vietnam: Communist gunners struck several key allied targets yesterday as the level of ground combat throughout the country remained low.

Two 122-mm. rockets hit the outskirts of Saigon late on 8 July with no casualties and only minor damage reported. Other rocket attacks were directed at the Quang Tri airfield, the allied military complex at Cam Ranh Bay, and several allied positions to the north and northwest of Saigon. Friendly casualties from these scattered shellings were light.

Although enemy-initiated military activity has recently declined, Communist terrorists continue to exact a steady toll of South Vietnamese Government supporters and officials.

In several areas of II Corps, for example, the enemy's terrorist tactics threaten the ability of the local government forces to protect the people, particularly those in rural areas. Moreover, in an apparent attempt to hamper government pacification efforts, abductions and terrorism have been concentrated against the People's Self Defense Forces (PSDF), Revolutionary Development cadre, and members of the National Police.

In III Corps, Viet Cong terrorist activity has remained relatively high despite the over-all reduction in enemy activity there. Primary targets for Communist terrorists have been the PSDF and local government officials. Captured enemy documents in III Corps indicate the enemy's intention to eliminate or neutralize government employees or informants at the hamlet, village, and district levels. Allied forces have seized a number of lists of government personalities at these local levels, which appear to be fairly accurate and up to date. These lists apparently were compiled by various elements of the Communists' district and village level infrastructure. (Map)]

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South Korea: The recent student demonstrations have failed to force President Pak's hand on the third term issue.

Pak's opponents had hoped that the disturbances would compel him publicly to declare for re-election in 1971, thereby giving them a clear target. Pak, however, has again side-stepped the issue with the ambiguous statement that while he himself would not actively seek a constitutional amendment to permit a third term, his administration nevertheless would take "appropriate legal procedures" to ensure free popular expression if such an amendment is formally proposed.

The authorities appear to have been equally adept in controlling the thousands of student demonstrators in their repeated attempts to move out from the campuses to the streets. Although some students reportedly have been seriously injured, the riot police generally have been careful to avoid actions that could generate public support for the demonstrators, thus far notably lacking.

Sporadic clashes between police and student mobs have occurred in the past few days, but the violence appears to be abating as the schools close for summer vacation. [redacted] the students and the opposition party are planning new student demonstrations when the colleges and universities reopen in the fall. [redacted]

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Arab States - Israel: Arab aircraft losses have mounted over the past week in stepped-up aerial fighting along the cease-fire lines.

Tel Aviv, which is usually fairly reliable in its military claims, has reported the downing of 13 Arab MIG-21 fighter aircraft since 1 July. Egyptian losses were given as four aircraft on 1 July and two more on 7 July. In the largest air battle with Syria since the 1967 war, Israel yesterday claimed to have downed seven--out of an estimated total inventory of 58--Syrian MIG-21s. Tel Aviv has denied losing any aircraft during these encounters.

Ground fighting has died down along the Jordan River in recent days, but the Suez Canal continues to be the scene of heavy daily firefights. In addition to the usual artillery and small-arms exchanges, Egypt sent another commando group across the canal on 7 July but with little apparent success.

Although limited fighting will doubtless continue, both in the air and on the ground, the Arabs' recent heavy aircraft losses may make them more cautious in local challenges to the Israeli Air Force.

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Bermuda: British officials are preparing for trouble during the Black Power Conference, scheduled for 10-13 July.

The conference was announced early this year by Roosevelt Brown, one of the more radical leaders of the opposition Progressive Labor Party. Brown expects a total of 1,500 delegates but UK officials estimate that only about 200 will be coming from the US, Canada, Great Britain, and the Caribbean; some will probably be kept away by the stronger immigration controls imposed recently. In addition, a new law provides severe penalties for any incitement to racial hatred.

Brown's relatively moderate public statements on the conference to date suggest that he hopes to stage a peaceful meeting but there is an obvious potential for spontaneous disorder. In April 1968, a minor incident between a youth and police sparked two days of rioting that caused \$2 million in damages.

If serious disorders break out, the 100 British marines flown in last week will probably have to supplement local security forces. Most members of the island's 250-man police force are white, and the force is not popular with the predominantly black population. The effectiveness of the Bermuda Regiment, a largely black, part-time force of 400 men, is questionable.

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Dominican Republic: Vice President Lora's open break with President Balaguer presages a bitter fight for the presidential nomination in 1970.

In a stinging, personal attack on the President in a speech on 4 July, Lora called on all Dominicans to oppose Balaguer's re-election. Lora repeatedly emphasized Balaguer's inattention to party matters, in contrast to his own workhorse role, in effect challenging Balaguer's announcement last month that he was reassuming active control of the party.

The vice president's attack will embolden Balaguer's opponents on the left who have insisted that re-election would lead to a revolution. Lora reinforced their theme by pointing to a second term as a "certain source of a struggle bloodier than 1965." The vice president, who probably cannot compete with Balaguer's countrywide popularity, obviously hopes that his strategy will eventually force the President to withdraw from the race.

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Portugal-Brazil: Prime Minister Caetano's visit to Brazil this week will probably strengthen his domestic political position.

Supporters of Caetano see the visit as a major move in his "electoral offensive" for the parliamentary elections. They expect that Caetano's popular reception, in marked contrast to that accorded Governor Rockefeller, will be a warm one. This, they believe, will increase Caetano's political freedom of action at home and improve his position vis-a-vis the more conservative President Thomaz. To ensure widespread publicity, Caetano's staff has arranged for a large contingent of Portuguese newspapermen to accompany him.

No dramatic progress is expected in Portuguese-Brazilian relations, but the trip will highlight a new arrangement opening up Angola and Mozambique to Brazilian investment and commercial activity. Arrangements for the defense of the South Atlantic will also be discussed, but the Brazilians are not enthusiastic about any agreement that would identify them closely with Portugal's African policies.



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Czechoslovakia: Slovakia is beginning to act as a semiautonomous republic.

The Slovaks in theory achieved greater rights and near-equality with the Czechs under the federalization plan that went into effect on 1 January 1969. Recently they abolished their three administrative "regions" and divided their republic into 37 districts--four more than the original alignment of 1949. Under the new arrangement, local and town governments will be subordinated to the districts, which in turn will be directly subordinate to the Slovak national government--rather than to the regions as in the past.

Many complex problems, including those which tend to aggravate Czech-Slovak animosities, must be worked out before the Slovaks can fully realize their goal of semi-independence. Both the Czech and Slovak governments, for example, are in some respects still subordinate to the federal government in Prague. While the more numerous Czechs appear willing to allow the Slovaks greater freedom, they contend that all federal bodies should be staffed according to the population ratio. The Slovaks, however, have abandoned their accommodating pre-invasion position on a "just arrangement" and are now demanding parity with the Czechs in top positions on the federal level.

Antagonisms between the two peoples may intensify next year when the Czechoslovak Communist Party is decentralized and many instruments of power and control are formally dispersed to the respective Czech and Slovak parties. Already a small group of Slovak officials reportedly is seeking even greater independence for their region than envisaged under federalization. This concept could gain wide popular support in Slovakia if the Slovaks feel that the Czechs are trying to arrange federalization too much to their own advantage.

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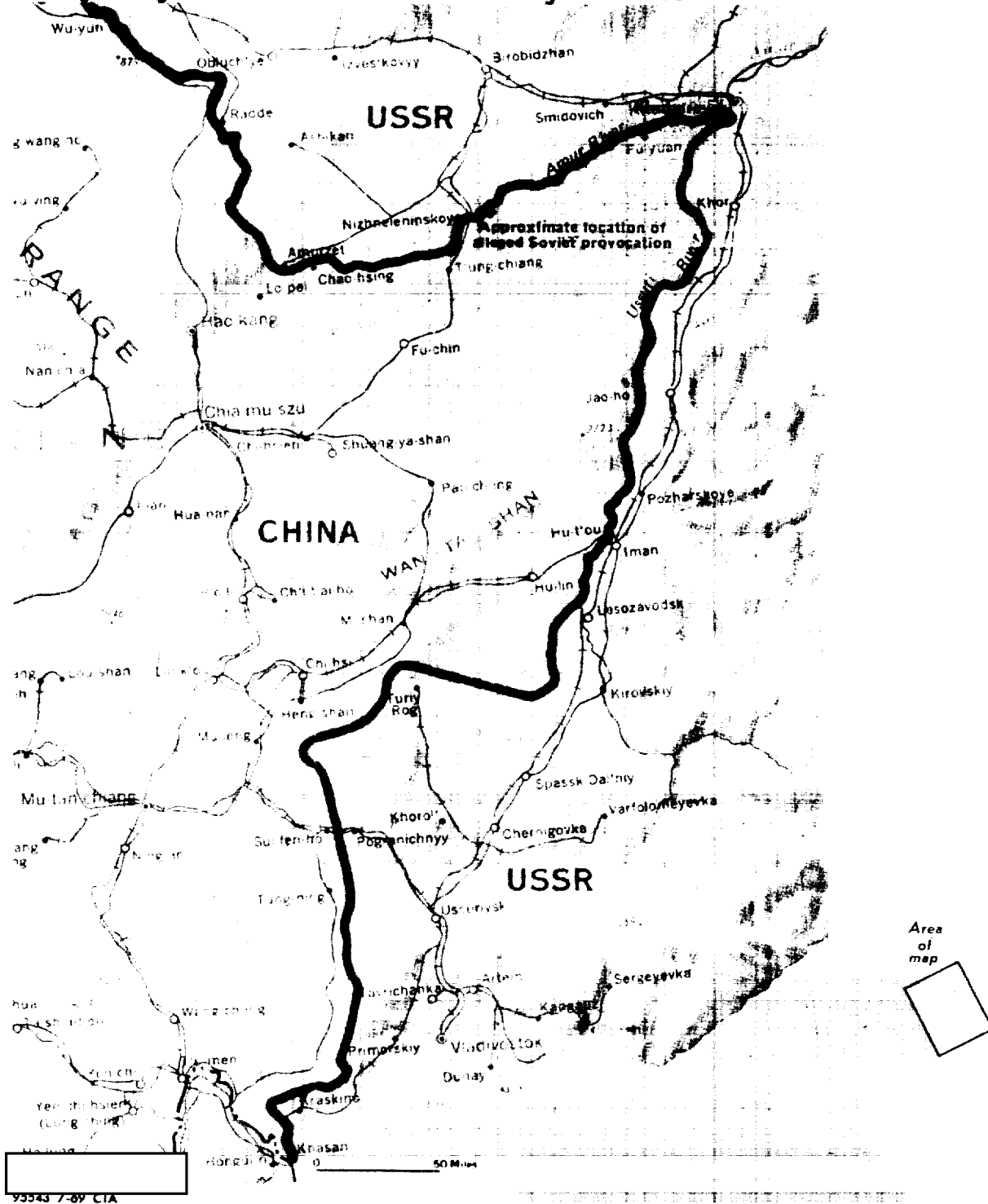
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Peking Charges New Soviet Provocation Along Amur River



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Communist China - USSR: Peking's public charge of a Russian provocation at an Amur River island may signal the breakdown of the Sino-Soviet border river navigation talks in Khabarovsk. It is the first specific border violation allegation by either side since the talks began on 18 June. The Khabarovsk sessions were expected to run aground over the question of disputed islands in the Ussuri and Amur River frontiers and the larger territorial claims Peking has been pressing on Moscow. Although neither side has as yet publicly commented on the talks, Soviet officials privately have reported that they remain deadlocked. [REDACTED] (Map)

* * * *

Kenya: Sporadic violence accompanied the state funeral in Nairobi yesterday of assassinated Tom Mboya. His fellow Luo tribesmen battled with police and army units, and stoned the cars of President Jomo Kenyatta and Vice President Daniel arap Moi as they attempted to attend the services. Attacks by Luo crowds on individual Kikuyus continue. Security forces can probably handle disturbances in the capital, which is in the heart of Kikuyu country, but their capabilities may be severely tested as the funeral cortege travels to western Kenya where the majority of the 1.5 million Luo are concentrated. [REDACTED]

* * * *

Yemen: The abrupt resignation of Prime Minister al-Amri yesterday, which caught his own government by surprise, may break the deadlock in Yemen's peace negotiations with the royalists and Saudi Arabia. Al-Amri, whose offer to resign last spring was rejected, has remained the last link with the hard-line republicans who toppled the royalists in 1962. Saudi King Faysal considers Yemen's President al-Iryani a moderate and pious leader and, with the departure of al-Amri, Faysal may relax his demand for a republican-royalist coalition and give both recognition and assistance to the present regime. [REDACTED]

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